

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for facilitating sale and distribution of fuel to a
2 fuel customer, comprising the following step:
3 at a server facility, storing store fuel deal data, and
4 processing said fuel deal data to automatically generate pricing
5 data based on said fuel deal data and in accordance with a
6 predetermined pricing technique;
7 at a client facility coupled to said server facility via an
8 electronic data network, permitting a user to enter said fuel deal
9 data and to cause said server facility to store and process said
10 fuel deal data to automatically generate said pricing data; and
11 permitting said fuel to be sold and distributed to a fuel
12 customer via a fuel distribution system based on said fuel deal
13 data and said automatically generated pricing data.

1 1. The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility
2 and said client facility are coupled to each other via the
3 Internet.

1 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility
2 and said client facility are coupled to each other via open
3 standards based protocols.

1 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility
2 includes a data storage facility storing said fuel deal data.

1 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility
2 automatically generates said pricing data periodically.

1 5. The method according to claim 1, wherein said server facility is
2 further configured to be accessed by a plurality of other client
3 facilities simultaneously.

16 permitting said fuel to be sold and distributed to a fuel
17 customer via a fuel distribution system based on said fuel deal
18 data and said automatically generated pricing data.

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1 11. The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility
2 and said client facility are coupled to each other via the
3 Internet.

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1 12. The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility
2 and said client facility are coupled to each other via open
3 standards based protocols.

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1 13. The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility
2 includes a data storage facility storing said fuel deal data.

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1 14. The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility
2 automatically generated said pricing data periodically.

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1 15. The method according to claim 10, wherein said server facility
2 is further configured to be accessed by a plurality of other
3 client facilities simultaneously.

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1 16. The method according to claim 10, wherein said client facility
2 is remotely located away from said server facility and said
3 client facility acts as a data collection point for collecting data
4 that said server facility uses in automatically generating said
5 pricing data.

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1 17. The method according to claim 10, wherein said
2 predetermined pricing technique involves basing prices for fuel
3 deals based on past fuel deals.

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1 18. The method according to claim 10, wherein said
2 predetermined pricing technique involves said server facility

3 generating a weighted average selling price based on prior fuel
4 deals.

1 ~~20~~ 19. The method according to claim 10, wherein said
2 predetermined pricing technique is implemented within said
3 server facility as a software module running within said server
4 facility.

1 ~~21~~ 20. The method according to claim 10, further comprising the step
2 of providing a graphical user interface to a user of said client
3 facility, said graphical user interface permitting said user to
4 engage in operations and to cause said server facility to
5 automatically computer said fuel prices.

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